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Department of State

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Action

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EMBTel 229.

Cuba

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During my call by Cuban Ambassador Alonso at own request
on Foreign Minister Lange November 7 following points
were made []

Core of Alonso's remarks:

(1) On instruction requested GON opinion of grounds
under international law for "continued violations" by
US of Cuban territorial integrity and for imposition
of inspection by UN.

(2) Referred to U-2 shot down in Cuba and said GOC still
possessed defensive ground-to-air missiles and could not
guarantee new incidents would not occur.

(3) Asserted as personal observation his government would
never accept any kind of international inspection even if
US threatened invasion.

(4) Expressed apprehension inspection of missile dismantling
could

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could lead to broader inspection of Cuban territory.

(5) Suggested inspection be conducted in international waters.

(6) Commented that effect of action would be to give US and UN right to decide what weapons Cuba would be allowed to possess.

Core of Lange's remarks:

(1) Welcomed opportunity to convey to Cuban Government GON opinion that Cuba would make valuable contribution to solution of crisis by accepting inspection by independent organ such as UN, ICRC or multi-national LA arrangement.

(2) GON said views based on finding pragmatic solution not on juridical considerations and stressed precedent of UAR willingness accept UN inspection in Suez crisis and example Norwegian willingness accept Arctic Region inspection.

(3) Pointed out inspection was key point in US-Soviet agreement, inspection in international waters inadequate and unreasonable expect US stop overflights until adequate inspection.

(4) Said if Cuba really felt it important stop US overflights, it was in Cuban interest accept temporary inspection.

(5) Noted Cuba had opportunity make important contribution to disarmament negotiations since Cuba inspection precedent could have important bearing.

In commenting [] noted these aspects of Alonso's 43

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Alonso's presentation:

(1) Particular stress on sovereignty in inspection issue;
(2) his failure to raise other points of Castro declaration, notably Guantanamo; (3) vigor with which Alonso presented what he claimed were personal observations.

[] said Alonso, who is likewise accredited to Sweden, subsequently approached Swedish Foreign Office along similar lines, and acknowledged to Swedes that approaches were being made to other neutral countries, but was evasive as to whether he had approached Norway. A3

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